



## Stewardship – Gratitude and Giving Committee

December 2023

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

*1 Thessalonians 5:18*

The Ad Hoc Stewardship Committee has recently been made a standing committee of Session and is now named Gratitude and Giving. Its mandate is to develop and implement strategies to identify, nurture, celebrate and pursue Christ-centred stewardship at and through Grace Presbyterian Church, focusing on relationship development, encouraging contributions of time, talent and treasure, through regular offerings and projects and campaigns, legacy bequests and other major donations.

We start with gratitude, firstly for God's incredible and unending blessings in our personal and church lives, and then for the generosity of so many of our congregation and friends. The gifts of the faithful saints have meant that Grace had the wherewithal to cope with the pandemic and multiple transitions. The gospel is preached every Sunday. We offer our praise through prayer and music and offerings each worship. Ministries continue to expand, with care for the homebound, the satellite Food Bank, the English Language Learner program, Church School for our children and youth, and much more, all enabled through the Holy Spirit and the time and talent of 200 volunteers.

There has also been inspiring support for special projects, such as the restoration of nine of the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. Donors responded so generously that we were able to exceed the target for this initiative. We have heard how delighted donors were to be able to give to this work and are deeply appreciative of all who contributed.

In October, we established an investment pooling agreement with The Calgary Foundation for the investment of the Grace Legacy Fund, a new option for contributing to the long-term financial sustainability of Grace Presbyterian Church. A Lunch N Learn provided the opportunity to hear from four financial experts about planned giving and estate planning. A congregational lunch with the theme of Grace and Gratitude gave thanks for the service of all those who share of their time and talent.



Over the coming months, we will continue to give thanks for the generosity of more than 200 individuals and households who share the blessings they have received. We will provide regular updates on trends in our giving. Working with the Land and Facilities and the Financial Management Committees, we will invite the congregation to contribute to major projects to maintain and improve the building. We will apply for grants from The Presbyterian Church in Canada and other appropriate funders. And in all our efforts, we will praise God for his abundant blessings.

With much gratitude,

Cindy Stephenson (Convener), Jim Campbell, Amy Dunn Moscoso, Barbara Henson, Alan Facey, and Len Wolstenholme

Stewardship begins with love—not giving.

*Unknown*